

one slighted and neglected because of the past. Though Christ's own blood has washed away the stain of his sin, and though the Father has received him as His son, yet Christian (?) people in their dealings with him insist that he shall bear the stamp of his sins. He longs, sometimes in vain, for earthly friends who like Jesus are willing that his past may be hidden. Such is the state in which we often find a new convert on the day that he enters the church. Now what *can* we and what *will* we do for him?

Here comrades of the young people's society is an opportunity for us. Here is one of the pleasantest and grandest works that God has given us the privilege of doing. What blessings are in store for the workers who will lead the inexperienced into paths of usefulness and safety. This we cannot do unless we can persuade him that his Christian friends are truer and better friends than those of his sinful days. To do this we must be friends indeed. Our friendship must not be of that outward kind that is made of good words and handshakes alone, but it must be a heart to heart, soul to soul interest in the new brother. If our young people's society fulfills its mission it will make him feel that he is a comrade, a brother, a fellow soldier of the Lord Jesus. It will let him know that he has the love of his brethren and will cause him to realize the blessedness of Christian fellowship. When he begins to consider himself at home in the church it becomes our mission to supply the things that he needs to become a successful Christian worker. The first essential to this end is knowledge of God's Word.

Thru the extensive use of the Bible in the meetings and a careful reading of references bearing on the topics the new convert will learn many profitable lessons and will receive a taste of the good things of the word. It should be the aim of the society to develop this taste that it may lead to more prayerful Bible study in private. The accomplishment of this end may be greatly aided by giving prominence to the Christian Endeavor pledge. If the new convert can be made a Bible student who so loves the word that he lets no day pass without prayerfully searching the scripture for new truths for life's guidance, then there is no danger of his failing to become a fruitful servant of God, for the word is able to build him up and give him an inheritance among all them that are sanctified.

Outlining work for him to do is another very important duty that the Young People's Society owes the new convert. We are saved to serve. Every saved soul has a God-given desire to save others. Many believers do very little Christian work not because they do not want to work but because they are timid and do not know how to work. Many who are now idle would gladly work earnestly if only the work was planned for them so that they knew what to do and how to do it.

The well organized society supplies this very need. There are so many things to do,

so many kinds of work connected with the society that there is always a duty for every member. There are simple, easy duties for those who are young and inexperienced and in the doing of them they develop power to do greater things. The society that does its whole duty to the new convert will be careful to keep him out of ruts. The duty assigned will not be the same thing over and over, but the duty will be changed and made to grow as the member grows in ability to work.

To the young people thus trained, Christian work is not a cross but a joy. They work to save souls not because they consider it a duty that must be done but because they love the work and long to see souls born again.

The Young People's Society is a training school that prepared its members for full Christian life. From this school we do not graduate until the Father says, "It is enough. Come up higher."

May God hasten the time when there will be a Young People's Society in every congregation, and when these societies will realize that they owe to the convert the duty of surrounding him with Christian influences, and of giving him an opportunity to develop the talents that God has given him to use in his vineyard.

Jones' Mills, Pa.

The Christian Life

At Jesus' Feet

Lord Jesus, life is hard, as Thou dost know,
And hours of peace and rest are very rare;
But it is sweet, after the toil and woe,
To nestle close to Thee with thoughts of prayer.
If Thou wilt lay Thy hand upon my head,
I shall arise refreshed and comforted.

Dear Master, I am sitting at Thy feet;
I would not miss a look or lose a word;
The hour is very holy when we meet;
I fain would see and hear none but the Lord;
I long to lay aside joy, grief, and fear,
And only know and feel that Thou art near.

The world's discordant noises evermore
Clang round about my ears and weary me.
There were rough hands, ungentle hearts before
That troubled me, but now I come to Thee.
O Jesus, quiet me with tender speech,
While up to Thee my wistful arms I reach.

In life's bewildering strife and eager rush
I lose so much of Thy sweet gentleness;
But in the peace and solace of this hush
Strengthen and sooth me with Thy blessedness;
Give to me what Thou wilt; here at Thy side,
Whate'er it be, I shall be satisfied.

—London Christian World.

A WORD OF GOD, TO THE CHILDREN OF GOD, ABOUT THE WORLD

S. KIEHL

The whole world liveth in the evil one. I John 5: 19, R. V. Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eye, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away and the lust thereof. I John 2: 15-17.

The friendship of the world is enmity with God; whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God. Jas. 4: 4. What are *you*? What am *I*? Let us examine ourselves.

Pure religion and undefiled before God keeps itself unspotted from the world. Jas. 1: 27. Our Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, give us grace to live such lives.

Dayton, O.

THE CONDITIONS OF TRUE SPIRITUAL GROWTH

ALICE HARLEY

In a certain mountainous region one will note the gleaming surface of a little artificial lake, whose azure tinted waters, mirroring the skies above, add much to the beauty of the landscape. This lakelet, embosomed in the depths of the mountains in the reservoir which furnishes water to a busy neighboring city, and it is fed by a little mountain stream of modest supply.

In the drought of summer, the infilling streams dwindle to a tiny thread; the waters of the reservoir sink to their lowest limits; and the result, the ills of a water famine, beset the city.

Not a hundred miles from this city lies a smaller one, nestling also among the mountains. In its centre bursts forth a natural fountain of unlimited abundance, and marvellous beauty. In the summer of disastrous drought this famous spring, without abating one jot of its wondrous flow, furnishes the thirsty city with an abundant supply, and then still from it flows a joyous little stream, giving life and freshness all along its course. The larger city, in truth, had water, but the smaller one had it "more abundantly."

Even so it is with the life of God's children. How meagre the life of some is, only as the trickling streams, scarce enough to keep and refresh them in time of test and stress, never knowing what His fulness means.

Others there are in whom the works of Jesus are joyously fulfilled: "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." John 10: 10. They are not only filled with the Spirit, but they overflow in abundant blessings to the hungry and thirsty lives about them. Sorrow comes, but cannot rob them of their great peace. Dark grow the days, but their child-like faith abounds more and more. They are "troubled on every side, yet not distressed; perplexed, but not in despair." Praise leaps from their lips as glad songs burst from the soaring skylark, and ceaseless service springs from them, because of the great fountains of love within them. In them too, are the Master's words fulfilled: "The water which I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life." Such were the lives of the apostles after the eventful day of Pentecost; transformed from timid, self-seeking, hesitating followers, to bold, sacrificing, heroic messengers of Jesus Christ, preaching his gospel with wondrous power and effectiveness. Such was Stephen, "full of faith and